

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

CHRISTIAN GARCIA-TORRES

No. 23 CR 243

Judge Sara L. Ellis

DEFENDANT’S PROTECTIVE ORDER GOVERNING DISCOVERY

Upon the motion of the government, pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(d) and for good cause shown, it is hereby ORDERED:

1. Certain materials exchanged by the Parties, provided by the United States, or produced by third parties, in preparation for, or in connection with the proceedings in this case contain particularly sensitive information (“Sensitive Information”). Sensitive Information includes, but is not limited to: (1) statements by, and reports from interviews of, individuals who have been or are cooperating with the government’s investigation; and (2) any information that might disclose the identity of a cooperating individual.

2. All of the materials containing Sensitive Information (the “Materials”) are subject to this protective order and may be used by the defendant and the defendant’s counsel (defined as counsel of record in this case in the Northern District of Illinois) solely in connection with the defense of this case, and for no other purpose, and in connection with no other proceeding, without further order of this Court.

3. These materials shall be plainly marked as sensitive by the government prior to disclosure. The Sensitive Materials or the information contained therein, may not be disclosed to any persons other than the defendant, counsel for the defendant, persons employed to assist the defense, or the person to whom the sensitive information solely and directly pertains, without prior notice to the government and authorization from the Court. Absent prior permission from the Court, information marked as sensitive shall not be included in any public filing with the Court, and instead shall be submitted under seal (except in the case of a defendant who chooses to include in a public document sensitive information relating solely and directly to the defendant making the filing).

4. The defendant and the defendant's counsel shall not disclose the materials or their contents directly or indirectly to any person or entity other than persons employed to assist in the defense and other persons to whom the Court may authorize disclosure (collectively, "authorized persons"). Potential witnesses and their counsel may be shown copies of the materials as necessary to prepare the defense, but may not retain copies without prior permission of the Court.

5. The defendant, the defendant's counsel, and authorized persons shall not copy or reproduce the materials except in order to provide copies of the materials for use in connection with this case by the defendant, the defendant's counsel, and authorized persons. Such copies and reproductions shall be treated in the same manner as the original materials.

6. The defendant, the defendant's counsel, and authorized persons shall not disclose any notes or records of any kind that they make in relation to the contents of the materials, other than to authorized persons, and all such notes or records are to be treated in the same manner as the original materials.

7. Before providing materials to an authorized person, defense counsel must provide the authorized person with a copy of this Order.

8. Upon conclusion of all stages of this case, all of the materials and all copies made thereof shall be disposed of in one of three ways, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. The materials may be (1) destroyed; (2) returned to the United States; or (3) retained in defense counsel's case file. The Court may require a certification as to the disposition of any such materials. In the event that the materials are retained by defense counsel, the restrictions of this Order continue in effect for as long as the materials are so maintained, and the materials may not be disseminated or used in connection with any other matter without further order of the Court.

9. To the extent any material produced by the United States to the defendant or the defendant's counsel were produced by mistake, the United States shall have the right to request the return of the material and shall do so in writing. Within five days of the receipt of such a request, the defendant and/or the defendant's counsel shall return all such material if in hard copy, and in the case of electronic materials, shall certify in writing that all copies of the specified material have been deleted from any location in which the material was stored.

10. The restrictions set forth in this Order do not apply to documents that are or become part of the public court record, including documents that have been received in evidence at other trials, nor do the restrictions in this Order limit defense counsel in the use of discovery materials in judicial proceedings in this case, except that any document filed by any party which attaches or otherwise discloses specially identified sensitive information as described in Paragraph 3 above, shall be filed under seal to the extent necessary to protect such information, absent prior permission from this Court.

11. Nothing contained in this Order shall preclude any party from applying to this Court for further relief or for modification of any provision hereof.

ENTER:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. L. Ellis', is written over a horizontal line.

SARA L. ELLIS
District Judge
United States District Court
Northern District of Illinois

Date: December 20, 2023